

# Isaiah 56:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Blessed is the man that doeth this, and the son of man that layeth hold on it; that keepeth the sabbath from polluting it, and keepeth his hand from doing any evil.

## Analysis

Blessing comes to the one who 'doeth this' - keeping sabbath and keeping hands from evil. The Hebrew 'chazeq' (holds fast) suggests determined commitment. Sabbath-keeping becomes a test case for covenant loyalty, representing trust in God's provision rather than anxious self-reliance.

## Historical Context

Sabbath observance was intensified during and after exile as a distinctive identity marker. It symbolized trust in God and separation from pagan cultures that knew no sabbath.

## Related Passages

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## Study Questions

1. How does sabbath-keeping express trust in God's provision?
2. What does 'holding fast' to covenant commitments look like in your life?

## Interlinear Text

## Additional Cross-References

**Isaiah 58:13** (Parallel theme): If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the LORD, honourable; and shalt honour him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words:

**Psalms 112:1** (Blessing): Praise ye the LORD. Blessed is the man that feareth the LORD, that delighteth greatly in his commandments.

**Ezekiel 20:12** (Parallel theme): Moreover also I gave them my sabbaths, to be a sign between me and them, that they might know that I am the LORD that sanctify them.

**Exodus 20:10** (Parallel theme): But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates:

**Luke 11:28** (Blessing): But he said, Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it.

**Ezekiel 20:20** (Parallel theme): And hallow my sabbaths; and they shall be a sign between me and you, that ye may know that I am the LORD your God.

**Psalms 106:3** (Blessing): Blessed are they that keep judgment, and he that doeth righteousness at all times.

**John 13:17** (Parallel theme): If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.

**Psalms 119:101** (Evil): I have refrained my feet from every evil way, that I might keep thy word.

**Proverbs 16:17** (Evil): The highway of the upright is to depart from evil: he that keepeth his way preserveth his soul.

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